part of the status information data being in the printer whether the output initiation instruction exists or not; and

the output initiation instruction monitor unit monitoring whether the output initiation instruction is contained in the status information data acquired by the status information acquisition unit on the host side.

17. (Amended) The printing controller according to Claim 14, characterized by:

the output initiation instruction being a trigger transmitted from the printer through the two-way communication; and

the output initiation instruction monitor unit judging whether the trigger is received.

18. (Amended) The printing controller according to Claim 14, characterized by:

the status information acquisition unit analyzing the status of the printer based on the acquired status information data; and

the status information acquisition unit warning a user if the printer can perform no printing.

19. (Amended) The printing controller according to Claim 18, characterized by the status information acquisition unit acquiring the communication mode as the status information data when two-way communication is held with the printer.

20. (Amended) The printing controller according to Claim 14, characterized by the printing data generation unit generating from a default file the form of the printing images to be printed by the printer, then generating the character string image corresponding to the status based on the status information data, and generating the printing image by superposing them together.

21. (Amended) A status information printing method for causing a printer to print status information under the control of a host computer, the printer and the host computer being connected for two-way communication, the method comprising:

an output initiation instruction monitor step for monitoring the output initiation instruction for the status information that the printer outputs through the two-way communication;

a status information acquisition step on the host side for acquiring status information data from the printer through the two-way communication;

a printing data generation step for generating printing data to be printed by the printer based on the status information data acquired in the status information acquisition step on the host side when the output initiation instruction is recognized in the output initiation instruction monitor step; and

a printing data output step for outputting to the printer through the two-way communication the printing data generated in the printing data generation step.

23. (Amended) The status information printing method according to Claim 21, characterized by:

part of the status information data being in the printer whether the output initiation instruction exists or not; and

the output initiation instruction monitor step monitoring whether the output initiation instruction is contained in the status information data acquired in the status information acquisition step on the host side.

24. (Amended) The status information printing method according to Claim 21, characterized by:

the output initiation instruction being a trigger transmitted from the printer through the two-way communication; and

the output initiation instruction monitor step judging whether the trigger is received.

25. (Amended) The status information printing method according to Claim 21, characterized by:

the status information acquisition step analyzing the status of the printer based on the acquired status information data; and

the status information acquisition step warning a user if the printer can perform no printing.

26. (Amended) The status information printing method according to Claim 21, characterized by the status information acquisition step acquiring the communication mode as the status information data when two-way communication is held with the printer.

27. (Amended) The status information printing method according to Claim 21, characterized by the printing data generation step generating from a default file the form of the printing images to be printed by the printer, then generating the character string image corresponding to the status based on the status information data, and generating the printing image by superposing them together.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the original Abstract with the following new Abstract: